

National Civil Service League Career Service Award

14 December 1962

Mr. Nicholas Kelley, President
National Civil Service League
315 Fifth Avenue
New York 16, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Kelley:

We are pleased to forward to you our nomination of
Mr. Arthur C. Lundahl for the 1963 Career Service Awards.

Mr. Lundahl has made major contributions to the
science of photographic intelligence and has had a lead-
ing role in the development of an interagency photographic
intelligence organization which is credited with accom-
plishments of great national significance. We feel that
his unusual competence and leadership in a highly technical
field and his achievements in furthering the National
Defense efforts make him a fitting representative of the
many career officers who are serving in critical and vital
situations in the Federal service.

I wish to express my appreciation for the continued
effort of the League to promote good government by recog-
nizing and encouraging distinguished public service.

Sincerely,

/s/

John A. McCone
Director

Enclosures

Originator: /s/
Director of Personnel

14 Dec 62
Date

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STATINTL

OP/PRS: [redacted] fmd (14 December 1962)

ARTHUR CHARLES LUNDAHL
Central Intelligence Agency

A. BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

Title: Assistant Director for Photographic Intelligence
Organization: Central Intelligence Agency
2430 E. Street, N.W.
Washington 25, D. C.

STATINTL

Education: 1934-42 University of Chicago
1948 Eidgen Techn Hochschule, Zurich, Switzerland
1962 Brookings Institute, Washington, D. C.
Government Service: 20 years

B. SERVICE RECORD

Mr. Lundahl has spent 20 years in Government service, the last ten of which have been with the Central Intelligence Agency. During World War II, he served for four years as a photographic intelligence specialist in the U.S. Navy advancing to the rank of Lieutenant Commander. For his outstanding contributions in the 1943 North Pacific Campaign he was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal by Admiral Nimitz. Following his release from the service in 1946, he joined the staff of the U.S. Navy Photographic Interpretation Center as Chief of the Photogrammetry Division. Recognized as a young and energetic leader combining executive talents and outstanding technical ability, he rose to the position of Assistant Chief Engineer, one of the top civilian positions at the U.S. Navy Photographic Interpretation Center. In 1953 he transferred to the Central Intelligence Agency and was charged with the responsibility of organizing and developing a photographic intelligence capability in CIA. Starting with a small nucleus of photographic intelligence specialists, he developed a highly sophisticated and technically advanced organization charged with national responsibilities. He currently is serving as the Assistant Director for Photographic Intelligence and is the U.S. Government's principal advisor on photographic intelligence matters.

NOMINATION OF MR. ARTHUR C. LUNDAHL FOR CAREER SERVICE AWARD

Mr. Arthur Lundahl is rated as the top photographic intelligence officer in the United States Government and as such has been involved in the most important problems affecting national security, including the Cuban crisis and other critical actions. He entered photographic intelligence work at the beginning of World War II and has played a unique role in developing a photographic intelligence system and program which have brought about a significant advance in American intelligence resources. Utilizing his wartime experience, and his appreciation of national strategic problems, he developed means to ensure exploitation of new and unique types of photography of the greatest significance and the highest priority.

Since Mr. Lundahl entered the Central Intelligence Agency in 1953 he has assumed the active leadership and direction of the CIA Photographic Intelligence activity, contributing significantly to the establishment of a sound organization and developing a substantive program in relation to the needs of this Agency and the Intelligence Community of the United States. In this role, he is responsible for advice and guidance on all matters pertaining to the photographic intelligence exploitation capabilities of the United States. As an expert in this highly technical field he has been close to the highest levels of the United States Government and has been called upon to deliver critically important briefings to senior policy officials of Government concerned with the national security. In meeting these challenging responsibilities he has earned high praise for himself and the Agency.

Mr. Lundahl's contributions to national security activities have been due in large measure to his ability to elicit the cooperation of all branches of Government involved in the exploitation of photography for intelligence purposes. In developing this highly technical activity, he has successfully organized and directed a truly integrated and coordinated governmental program. Because of his achievements, vital information has been supplied rapidly to the Government's top policy makers charged with ensuring the Nation's security. His fine personal character and dedication to duty have provided the type of leadership required to inspire his subordinates to continuing peak-level performance at great personal sacrifice. His foresightedness and keen imagination have provided the impetus to a research and development program which has resulted in the most technically advanced and sophisticated activity of its kind.

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Aside from his many official duties and assignments, Mr. Lundahl has found time to be an active participant in scientific societies and many community activities. He is a member of the Cosmos Club and devotes much time to civic, school, and church activities in the Washington area. He is an excellent photographer and lecturer, constantly in demand to speak to various national and local groups, and is the author of numerous technical publications and articles on photography, geology, and photogrammetry.

Senior officers in this Agency have selected Mr. Lundahl as the CIA nominee for the 1963 Career Service Awards. Our nomination is based upon his outstanding contributions to the National Defense effort, his unusual wealth of technical knowledge, his impressive ability to organize and direct a complex activity, and his achievements as the principal spokesman for this vital part of the intelligence program. He is a dedicated public servant and an outstanding example of the highest traditions of the Federal service.